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October 28, 1963

NSC REFERRAL NOT REQUIRED

Hon. John F. Kennedy
President of the United States
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am enclosing a series of pictures that appeared in yesterday's Philadelphia SUNDAY BULLETIN. It is difficult to believe that this paper would have printed these pictures unless it had been first assured of their authenticity.

These pictures by the Swedish photographer are too reminiscent of what we learned was happening in the "dirty war" in Algeria. France was condemned for her part in it and we, our government, stands in almost the same position. We are supporting those who practice the inhumanity of man to man depicted in the paper. Such behavior will only harden the will to resist, especially when there exists real grievances against those who exercise political power.

Mr. President, I contend that our presence in Vietnam is a very serious mistake. I urge you to take the issue to the United Nations, that we use the machinery provided in the previous settlement for North Vietnam and for Laos. And above all, that we cease the oppression and persecution of these people carried on with our funds and materials.

Recently we had a visit from Mme Ngo from Vietnam. If she is considered as a spokesman for the rulers of that unfortunate country then she confirms the arrogance, the immorality and the disregard for fellow-humans which we have read about in the N.Y. Times and elsewhere. These are not the allies for a nation founded on the traditions of Thomas Jefferson and George Washington.

Sincerely yours

A. Egnal
A. Egnal



SILENCE CONTINUES even when the policeman hangs the prisoner from the ceiling by his elbows and thrusts a knife toward his stomach. Swedish writer-photographer Leo Lonnbrink, who made the torture pictures, learned that the farmer died during a later extended period of interrogation.



SECRET POLICE SERGEANT questions a man who will Viet Cong guerrillas near the house of the sergeant. The sergeant's knuckles are on the table in the foreground.

PHILADELPHIA
Sunday, October 27, 1963



(right) accused of cooperating with the Viet Cong in South Viet Nam. Brass knuckles are on the table in the foreground.

REFUSING TO TALK, the peasant is beaten by his captor. Officers believed that the suspect and his brother could tell them how many Viet Cong Communists were active in the area around the strategic village.



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